

S/N 10/613,757

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

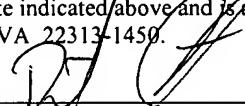
Applicant: ZIMMEL ET AL. Examiner: J. NASRI  
Serial No.: 10/613,757 Group Art Unit: 2839  
Filed: JULY 2, 2003 Docket No.: 2316.1789US01  
Title: FIBEROPTIC FURCATION DEVICE WITH CRIMP

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

'Express Mail' mailing label number: EV408487616US

Date of Deposit: November 15, 2004

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service 'Express Mail Post Office To Addressee' service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Mail Stop 313(c), Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

By:   
Name: David Ortiz

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

Mail Stop 313(c)  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**23552**  
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner. At least some of the references were recently cited in an International Search Report mailed October 15, 2004.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 or a CPA under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d). Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

Certification Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d)

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d), the undersigned hereby certifies that each item listed on the enclosed Form 1449 was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and that this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty (30) days prior to the filing of this Information

Disclosure Statement. Accordingly, no patent term adjustment is due for the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided. Enclosed for the Examiner's information is a copy of the International Search Report. Applicants note reference 6,278,831 B1 also listed in the search report was previously cited to or by the Examiner.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

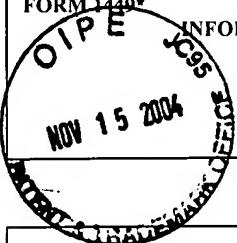
Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903  
(612) 332-5300

Date: Nov. 15, 2004

  
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Steven C. Bruess  
Reg. No. 34,130  
SCB:PLSkaw

 <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b> <b>IN AN APPLICATION</b> (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number:	Application Number:
	2316.1789US01	10/613,757
	Applicant: ZIMMEL ET AL.	
	Filing Date: 07/02/2003	Group Art Unit: 2839

<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>						
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>						
	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION
						YES
	0 520 946 A1	12/30/1992	EP			X
	0 544 004 A1	06/02/1993	EP			
	0 862 072 A2	09/02/1998	EP			
	WO 00/08498	02/17/2000	PCT			abstract
<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</b>						

<b>23552</b>	PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE
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EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.	